



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

September 16, 2008

S. 3166

A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to impose criminal penalties on individuals who assist aliens who have engaged in genocide, torture, or extrajudicial killings to enter the United States

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on September 12, 2008

CBO estimates that implementing S. 3166 would have no significant cost to the federal government. Enacting the bill could affect direct spending and revenues, but CBO estimates that any such effects would not be significant.

S. 3166 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 3166 would make it a federal crime to assist certain participants in genocide or similar acts to enter the United States. If the bill is enacted, the government might be able to pursue cases that it otherwise would not be able to prosecute. However, we expect that S. 3166 would apply to a relatively small number of offenders, so any increase in costs for law enforcement, court proceedings, or prison operations would not be significant. Any such costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under S. 3166 could be subject to criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the legislation is enacted. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, then deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and later spent. Thus, enacting S. 3166 could increase revenues and direct spending; however, CBO expects that any such impact would not be significant.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.